- 1 1. A method that restricts access to a script comprising the steps of:
- 2 storing an encrypted script;
- 3 storing a hypertext object including a reference to the encrypted script; and
- 4 storing a decryption program capable of decrypting the encrypted script, the hypertext object
- 5 including a reference to the decryption program,
- 6 whereby access to the hypertext object only allows access to the encrypted script.
  - 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the hypertext object and the encrypted script are stored on a server.
  - 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the hypertext object and the encrypted script are stored as a single downloadable object.
  - 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the decryption program is stored on a server.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the encrypted script and the decryption program are stored
- 2 as a single downloadable object.
- 1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the hypertext object, the encrypted script, and the
- 2 decryption program are stored as a single downloadable object.

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- 1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein storing an encrypted script further comprises the steps of:
- 3 selecting an encryption key; and

selecting an encryption algorithm;

- 4 creating the encrypted script by executing the encryption algorithm and applying the
- 5 encryption key.
- 1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein the encryption algorithm is a symmetric encryption 2 algorithm.
  - 9. The method of claim 7, wherein the encryption algorithm is a public key encryption algorithm.
  - 10. A method that restricts access to a script comprising the steps of:

    storing an encrypted script that conceals and restricts access to the script;

    storing a hypertext object including a reference to the encrypted script; and

    storing a decryption program capable of decrypting the encrypted script, the hypertext object including a reference to the decryption program,
- 6 whereby access to the hypertext object only allows access to the encrypted script.
- 1 11. The method of claim 10, wherein the hypertext object and the encrypted script are stored on
- 2 a server.

- 1 12. The method of claim 10, wherein the hypertext object and the encrypted script are stored as
- 2 a single downloadable object.
- 1 13. The method of claim 10, wherein the decryption program is stored on a server.
- 1 14. The method of claim 10, wherein the encrypted script and the decryption program are stored
- 2 as a single downloadable object.
  - 15. The method of claim 10, wherein the hypertext object, the encrypted script and the decryption program are stored as a single downloadable object.
  - 16. The method of claim 10, wherein storing an encrypted script further comprises the steps of: selecting an encryption algorithm;

selecting an encryption key; and

transforming the script into the encrypted script by executing the encryption algorithm and

- 5 applying the encryption key.
- 1 17. The method of claim 16, wherein the encryption algorithm is a symmetric encryption
- 2 algorithm.

- 1 18. The method of claim 16, wherein the encryption algorithm is a public key encryption
- 2 algorithm.

- 1 19. A method that restricts access to a script comprising the steps of:
- storing an encrypted script that conceals and restricts access to the script;
- 3 storing a hypertext object that modifies a reference to the script to refer to the encrypted
- 4 script; and

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- storing a decryption program capable of decrypting the encrypted script, the hypertext
- 6 object, the reference to the script further modified to include a reference to the decryption program.
  - 20. The method of claim 19, wherein the hypertext object and the encrypted script are stored on a server.
  - 21. The method of claim 19, wherein the hypertext object and the encrypted script are stored as a single downloadable object.
  - 22. The method of claim 19, wherein the decryption program is stored on a server.
- 1 23. The method of claim 19, wherein the encrypted script and the decryption program are stored
- 2 as a single downloadable object.
- 1 24. The method of claim 19, wherein the hypertext object, the encrypted script, and the
- 2 decryption program are stored as a single downloadable object.

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- 1 25. The method of claim 19, wherein storing an encrypted script further comprises the steps of: 2 selecting an encryption algorithm;
- 3 selecting an encryption key; and
- transforming the script into the encrypted script by executing the encryption algorithm and
- 5 applying the encryption key.
- 1 26. The method of claim 25, wherein the encryption algorithm is a symmetric encryption
- algorithm.

- 27. The method of claim 25, wherein the encryption algorithm is a public key encryption algorithm.
- 28. A method that restricts access to a script comprising the steps of:

  receiving a request for a hypertext object including a reference to an encrypted script and a reference to a decryption program capable of decrypting the encrypted script;
- 4 transferring the hypertext object; and
- 5 transferring the encrypted script.
- 1 29. The method of claim 28, further comprising the step of:
- 2 receiving a request for the encrypted script.
- 1 30. The method of claim 29, wherein the request for the encrypted script is prompted by receipt

- of the hypertext object.
- The method of claim 28, further comprising the step of: 1 31.
- 2 issuing a request for the encrypted script.
- The method of claim 31, wherein the request for the encrypted script is prompted by receipt 1 32.
- 2 of the hypertext object.
- 33. The method of claim 28, further comprising the step of: transferring the decryption program.
  - The method of claim 33, further comprising the step of: 34. receiving a request for the decryption program.
  - The method of claim 34, wherein the request for the decryption program is prompted by 35.
- 2 receipt of the hypertext object.
- 1 36. The method of claim 33, further comprising the step of:
- 2 issuing a request for the decryption program.
- 1 37. The method of claim 36, wherein the request for the decryption program is prompted by
- 2 receipt of the hypertext object.

- A method that restricts access to a script comprising the steps of:
- 2 issuing a request for a hypertext object including a reference to an encrypted script and a
- 3 reference to a decryption program capable of decrypting the encrypted script;
- 4 receiving the hypertext object; and
- 5 receiving the encrypted script.
- 1 39. The method of claim 38, further comprising the steps of:

decrypting the encrypted script; and

presenting the hypertext object on a display device.

- 40. The method of claim 38, further comprising the step of:
  - issuing a request for the encrypted script.
- 41. The method of claim 40, wherein the request for the encrypted script is prompted by receipt
- 2 of the hypertext object.

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- 1 42. The method of claim 38, further comprising the step of:
- 2 receiving a request for the encrypted script.
- 1 43. The method of claim 42, wherein the request for the encrypted script is prompted by receipt
- 2 of the hypertext object.

- 1 44. The method of claim 38, further comprising the steps of:
- 2 issuing a request for a decryption program; and
- 3 receiving the decryption program.
- 1 45. The method of claim 44, wherein the request for the decryption program is prompted by
- 2 receipt of the hypertext object.

- 46. The method of claim 38, further comprising the steps of: receiving a request for a decryption program; and receiving the decryption program.
- 47. The method of claim 46, wherein the request for the decryption program is prompted by receipt of the hypertext object.
- 1 48. A system that restricts access to a script comprising:
- 2 an encrypted script;
- a hypertext object including a reference to the encrypted script; and
- a decryption program capable of decrypting the encrypted script, the hypertext object
- 5 including a reference to the decryption program.
- 1 49. The system of claim 48, further comprising:

- 2 an encryption key; and
- an encryption program capable of encryption the script by applying the encryption key.
- 1 50. The system of claim 49, wherein the encryption program implements a symmetric
- 2 encryption algorithm.
- 1 51. The system of claim 49, wherein the encryption program implements a public key
- 2 encryption algorithm.

- 52. A system that restricts access to a script comprising:
  - an encrypted script that conceals and restricts access to the script;
  - a hypertext object that modifies a reference to the script to refer to the encrypted script; and
  - a decryption program capable of decrypting the encrypted script, the hypertext object
- including a reference to the decryption program.
- 1 53. The system of claim 52, further comprising:
- 2 an encryption key; and
- an encryption program capable of encrypting the script by applying the encryption key.
- 1 54. The system of claim 53, wherein the encryption program implements a symmetric
- 2 encryption algorithm.

- The system of claim 53, wherein the encryption program implements a public key 55.
- encryption algorithm. 2